

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 /018 W
-----039942 131228Z /45

R 131013Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO USICA WASHDC
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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 2320

USICA FOR ECA/IV/V

STATE FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, OEXC, SW, ELAB
SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY VISITOR: THOMAS MOESSON, LO, POLITICAL
SECRETARY

REF: STOCKHOLM 2319

1. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY THOMAS MOESSON, A POLITICAL SECRETARY AT THE SWEDISH BLUE COLLAR WORKERS LABOR CENTRAL (LO) ABOUT ASSISTANCE WITH PROGRAMING FOR A TRIP HE PLANS ON MAKING TO THE UNITED STATES FROM JULY 10 TO AUGUST 24. MOESSON IS AN EXTREMELY BRIGHT YOUNG STAFFER WHO IS RAPIDLY BRANCHING OUT FROM HIS EARLIER SPECIALIZATION IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS TO THE BROADER POLITICAL QUESTIONS OF THE DAY. HE HAS RECENTLY BEEN DOING A LOT OF SPEECHWRITING FOR THE LEADERS OF LO, PARTICULARLY LO'S NUMBER TWO MAN (LARS WESTERBERG) AND APPEARS TO HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE AS A PRINCIPLE ADVISOR IN THAT ORGANIZATION. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT USICA/ECA SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF DOL/ILAB TO HELP THIS IMPORTANT INDIVIDUAL DURING HIS U.S. VISIT. THE
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INFORMATION OFFICER IS SENDING A SEPARATE CABLE TO THE FOREIGN PRESS CENTER WASHINGTON, D.C. TO REQUEST PROGRAMING INPUT FOR MOESSON'S STRONG SECONDARY INTEREST IN MEETING JOURNALISTS WHO WRITE ABOUT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE U.S. (MOESSON WAS A WORKING JOURNALIST FOR THE METAL WORKERS BEFORE JOINING THE LO STAFF).

2. MOSESSON WAS BORN 1947 IN THE IMPORTANT IRON MINING TOWN OF KIRUNA LOCATED WELL NORTH OF THE ARCTIC CIRCLE. HIS FATHER WAS A MINER AND A UNION ACTIVIST SO HE WAS "BORN TO ORGANIZED LABOR". HE STUDIED JOURNALISM AT STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY BUT DID NOT RECEIVE A DEGREE. INSTEAD HE WENT TO WORK AS A JOURNALIST FOR THE METAL WORKERS RESPECTED MAGAZINE "METALARBETAREN" WHERE HE SPECIALIZED IN THE FOREMENTIONED OSHA AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS. HE IS WIDELY ACQUAINTED IN THE U.S. WITH PEOPLE IN THIS FIELD INCLUDING EULA BINGHAM. THIS WILL BE MOSESSON'S FIRST TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES ALTHOUGH HE HAS TRAVELED WIDELY IN EUROPE BOTH EAST AND WEST ON TRADE UNION BUSINESS AND HOLIDAY. HE IS A SOCIAL DEMOCRAT AND HOLDS A PARTY OFFICE IN HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY. HE IS MARRIED WITH AN INFANT SON. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

3. AS IS TYPICAL WITH SWEDES MOSESSON HAS ALREADY DONE A GOOD DEAL OF THINKING ABOUT HIS TRIP AND HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE CONTACT WITH FRANK WALLICK OF THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS WASHINGTON OFFICE WHO SHOULD BE CONTACTED BY THE ILAB PROGRAM OFFICER TO COORDINATE MOSESSON'S PROGRAM. PROGRAM IDEAS FOLLOW:

A. JULY 10: ARRIVE WASHINGTON, D.C.
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B. JULY 10-17: WASHINGTON, D.C. MEETING WITH PEOPLE AT OSHA, EPA, THE AFL-CIO, AND THE CONGRESS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN AND WORKING ON QUESTIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS. MOSESSON WILL BE A HOUSE GUEST OF FRANK WALLICK WHILE IN WASHINGTON.

C. JULY 17-18: DETROIT, MEET WITH UAW STAFF, SPEND SEVERAL DAYS GOING THROUGH PLANTS WHERE THERE IS A FULL TIME UAW HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE. MOSESSON WILL BE A HOUSEGUEST OF UAW'S DAN MCLEOD.

D. JULY 26-27: CHICAGO STUDYING OSHA EDUCATION OF INSPECTORS. (HOTEL RESERVATION NEEDED).

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E. JULY 27-28: MADISON AND MILWAUKEE VISITING
WITH SUCH UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LUMINARIES AS GEORGE
HEGLUND.

F. JULY 28-31: DENVER (HOTEL RESERVATIONS NEEDED)
PERHAPS A VISIT TO THE AMERICAN METAL CLIMAX MINES AT
CLIMAX OR HENDERSON MIGHT BE INTERESTING.

G. JULY 31-AUGUST 7: SAN FRANCISCO, UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY WITH THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND
SAFETY PROGRAM. HOUSE GUEST OF ANDRES HRICKO.

H. AUGUST 7-9: NEW ORLEANS VACATION TIME (HOTEL
RESERVATIONS NEEDED).

I. AUGUST 9-15: BOSTON, HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
AND OTHER LOCAL GROUPS WORKING IN HEALTH AND SAFETY.
(HOTEL RESERVATIONS NEEDED).

J. AUGUST 15-18: WASHINGTON, MORE CONTACTS WITH
OSHA AND NIOSH PEOPLE, PERHAPS VISIT PLANTS IN BALTIMORE
OR PHILADELPHIA.
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K. AUGUST 18-14: NEW YORK, VISIT MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE, IRVING SELIKOFF (ALREADY HAS RESERVATIONS AT
THE ADAMS HOTEL NEAR MOUNT SINAI.

L. AUGUST 24: NEW YORK TO STOCKHOLM.

4. MOSESSON IS VERY OPEN TO ANY SUGGESTIONS, CHANGES, OR DELETION THAT ILAB MIGHT WISH TO MAKE. HE HAS A LARGE NUMBER OF CONTACTS IN HIS FIELD OF SPECIAL INTEREST DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE HAS NEVER BEEN TO THE U.S. BEFORE. WHAT HE REALLY NEEDS HELP WITH IS CO-ORDINATING AND KNITTING ALL OF THIS TOGETHER INTO A HARD HITTING COHESIVE PROGRAM. HE FEELS HIS VISIT COULD HAVE A BIG IMPACT IN SWEDEN SINCE THE WHOLE AREA OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT HAVE HAD TO TAKE SECOND PLACE TO ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES DURING THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS. LO IS PLANNING ON LAUNCHING A NEW DRIVE IN THIS AREA AND THUS IS FINANCING, ALONG WITH THE SWEDISH INSTITUTE, MOSESSON'S U.S. TRIP.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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